

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY HEADQUARTERS, 2ND INFANTRY DIVISION UNIT #15041 APO AP 96258-5041

EAID-CG

2 1 JUL 2006

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Policy Letter #15, Authority and Responsibility for United States-Republic of Korea Status of Forces Agreement (US-ROK SOFA) Issues

1. This policy is effective immediately and remains in effect until rescinded or superseded.

2. References:

- a. Article XXVIII, Joint Committee, United States-Republic of Korea Status of Forces Agreement, 9 Feb 67, as amended.
- b. USFK Command Policy Letter #15, Authority and Responsibility for United States-Republic of Korea Status of Forces Agreement (US-ROK SOFA) Issues, 30 June 2006.
- 3. This policy applies to all Soldiers and civilian employees of the 2ID while in the Republic of Korea.
- 4. The US-ROK SOFA governs almost every aspect of stationing US armed forces in Korea. SOFA issues present 2ID with unique challenges; there are many players, complex issues, and protracted negotiations. Whether it involves real estate, criminal jurisdiction, the environment, or other topics, the potential for a misstep is significant. To reach an appropriate end state, it is important for the US to articulate well-coordinated, unified positions to our ROK ally.
- 5. The individuals below have been designated by the USFK Commander as noted and play a vital role in all SOFA matters:
- a. The Deputy Commander, USFK, serves as the US representative to the US-ROK SOFA Joint Committee, the bilateral consultative body established to implement to the SOFA and to determine the "facilities and areas" USFK may use in Korea. As such, he is the single voice for this command on SOFA issues. When required, the Deputy Commander will raise SOFA issues to the Commander, USFK for decision.
- b. The Deputy Commander, USFK oversees SOFA subcommittees and joint working groups in their efforts to negotiate international agreements under the SOFA.

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In their capacity as appointed SOFA subcommittee co-chairs, USFK and EUSA principal staff officers report directly to the Deputy Commander.

- c. The Chief of Staff, USFK, supports the Deputy Commander on SOFA issues by coordinating and synchronizing staff actions.
- d. The Assistant Chief of Staff, J5, USFK, serves as alternate US representative to the SOFA Joint Committee, and in this capacity reports directly to the Deputy Commander.
- 6. It is essential that 2ID personnel understand the provisions of our SOFA with the Republic of Korea and adhere to its provisions. The current SOFA may be reviewed at www.usfk.mil/org/fkdc-sa/contents/Links.htm.
- 7. Soldiers who have questions about the SOFA that relate to them or their particular situation should contact the 2ID Legal Assistance Office, DSN 732-6999. Commanders who have questions about dealing with SOFA issues should contact the 2ID SOFA Advisor, DSN 732-6227.

JAMES A. COGGIN Major General, USA Commanding

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